

# STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS

## COUNTY OF NEWPORT

The Board of Canvassers of the Town of Tiverton, County and State aforesaid held a Meeting at the Tiverton Town Hall, 343 Highland Road on Tuesday, February 24, 2015 at 9:30 a.m.

### **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Chair Bobby J Harris-present

Vice Chair DeEtta Moran-present

Member Paul Amaral-present

Town Clerk-Nancy Mello-present

Alternate Jean Veegh-~~absent~~ **present**

Clerk Jeanne Spencer-present

Chair Mr. Harris called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

### **1. Review and Approve Minutes:**

- Approval of November 4, 2014 Minutes  
A motion was made by P. Amaral, and seconded by D. Moran to accept the minutes as amended. The motion passed unanimously.
- Approval of December 16, 2014 Minutes  
A motion was made by P. Amaral, and seconded by D. Moran to accept the minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

### **2. New Business**

- Discussion and Vote on Location for FTR – The board members discussed the best possible place to hold and accommodate the 2015 Financial Town Referendum. D. Moran stated the Tiverton High School is the most logical place to hold the FTR. There is ample parking to accommodate the voters. Having one central location for voting as opposed to several different polling location would be more cost efficient and less confusing. D. Moran stated possible resistance to one central location from senior citizens. Various ideas were discussed, N. Mello stated she will look into the possibility of utilizing the Senior Center's bus to transport senior citizen voters.

D. Moran made a motion to go forward to hold the FTR at the Tiverton High School to be held on Saturday, May 16<sup>th</sup>. P. Amaral seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

- D. Moran stated the need for a better communication plan. N. Mello stated that the first year of change is always the hardest and there might not be as big of a savings in the first year. There will need to be more P/R and advertising to cut down on some confusion, adding she will start announcing it at the Town Council Meetings.
- Approval of FTR ~~Early~~ **Absentee** Voting Dates – The Agenda was amended to state Absentee Voting not Early Voting. The board members discussed cutting back on dates for absentee voting to help defray cost.

D. Moran made a motion to have Absentee Voting held at the Town Hall on Thursday, May 14<sup>th</sup> and Friday, May 15<sup>th</sup> following the regular election time-frame of 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. P. Amaral seconded and motion passed unanimously.

- Use of Provisional Ballots, Emergency Ballots, and Absentee Mail Ballots

D. Moran made a motion to duplicate and/or comply with the regular election process, utilizing Provisional Ballots, Emergency Ballots, Absentee Mail Ballots and any other provision possible as to not disenfranchise the voter. P. Amaral seconded the motion, the motion passed unanimously.

- Mail Ballots will be due back to the Town Hall by Saturday, May 16<sup>th</sup> by 8 p.m. The B.O.C. will have to process the ballots through the election equipment.
- Board of Election's Recommended Amendments to Title 17 – Clerk J. Spencer stated that the B.O.E. has not yet posted the minutes for their meeting held on February 19<sup>th</sup> and does not know if the recommended amendments were approved. No further discussion necessary.

### **3. Board Member Items**

- B. Harris stated he thinks there will be more than two budget proposals submitted. More than two will increase the chance of a runoff, if only two there will be a supermajority.
- N. Mello stated the Budget Workshop is to be held Saturday, February 28<sup>th</sup> and next Tuesday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- N. Mello announced that the Deputy Director, Election Division for the Secretary of State has retired. Also announcing that Rob Rock came back to the Secretary of State's Office and is now the Director of Elections and Civics. Adding, we have always had good relations with the Secretary of State's Office.
- Clerk J. Spencer questioned the date for the Final Canvass. N. Mello stated it will be held on Friday, April 24 at 4 p.m. Therefore, anyone wishing to object to the inclusion/exclusion of the electors named on the voting list should appear at the hearing and make his or her objections known.

There being no further business a motion was made by D. Moran and seconded by P. Amaral to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 10:20 a.m.

Bobby J. Harris, Chair\_\_\_\_\_ DeEtta M. Moran, Vice Chair\_\_\_\_\_

Paul Amaral, member\_\_\_\_\_ Jean M. Veegh, alternate\_\_\_\_\_

A True Copy: Attest\_\_\_\_\_ Nancy L. Mello, Town Clerk

**Minutes Amended March 18, 2015**